



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The City of Canton and ArtsinStark Announce Collaborative Fourth of July First Friday Event

CANTON, Ohio – This year's Fourth of July celebration will be downtown. In conjunction with First Friday's seventh anniversary, the Independence Day fireworks celebration will be in downtown Canton as the pinnacle performance of the July 4 First Friday.

Everyone is invited to participate in the red, white, and blue celebration that brings the City of Canton, the Downtown Special Improvement District, and ArtsinStark together with thousands of families and friends for an evening that salutes America.

As with all First Fridays, the holiday event will start at 6 PM and end with a fireworks extravaganza, launching from the Bliss Tower at dusk. "Because First Friday's seventh anniversary falls on Independence Day, we wanted to make this year's Fourth of July a true downtown celebration with ArtsinStark," Mayor Healy said.

"Although it's a bit of a break from tradition, it makes perfect sense to move the fireworks to an area that will already be teeming with Independence Day activities include musical performances, children's activities, art displays, and of course, Uncle Sam himself," said Robb Hankins, president and CEO of ArtsinStark.

Games, booths, and a family-friendly zone along Market Square will be set up in addition to the vendor booths along Court and 4th Street. *The Repository* Battle of the Bands winner, Vex, and crowd favorite New Wave Nation will be playing on the stage at 4th and Market. St. Peter's Church will host an official viewing party in their parking lot in addition to the space in front of Market Square to watch the fireworks. The Millennium Parking Deck will offer parking for \$5.

The 2015 Fourth of July celebration will move back to the McKinley Monument, as it has been in the past.

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